NUMB. XXXIX.

THE PLAIN DEALER.

——Turpi Secernis Honestum. HOR.

Nec duo sunt, sed forma duplex; nec fœmina dici
Nec puer ut possit: neutrumque & utrumque videtur. OVID.

MONDAY, AUGUT 3. 1724.

THE following Letters being written in the Spirit of Benevolence to all Persons of Modesty, and tending very much to the Reformation of some rude and vicious Habits, which are grown to an enormous Height in too many of both Sexes, they shall furnish the Entertainment of the Day. These Female Correspondents, who are such powerful and ingenious Advocates in the Behalf of Beauty, Innocence, and Modesty, will, probably, observe with Pleasure, that their Letters, in a short Time, will have had a good Effect upon those who are not lost to all Sense of Shame; and they will then enjoy the inward Satisfaction and Glory, of having efficaciously corrected, with their own pretty Hands, the Rudenesses and Abuses, of which they, so justly, complain.

Epsom, July 25. 1724.

Mr. PLAIN DEALER,

I Have had the Misfortune to be Educated after 'the old-fashion'd Method of our Ancestors; who were so strangely Ignorant, to instil *Modesty*, as a Virtue, into their Female Pupils. Now, you must know, Sir, this Place is filled, at present, with a polite Set of Ladies, (Members of a Society, with so hard a Name, that I am afraid I shou'd spell it wrong, so will omit it) that have Heroically resolv'd to put all Modest Virgins out of Countenance, by staring unmercifully in their Faces. This Behaviour adds so many new Charms, to their native Ones, and renders them so agreeable to all they converse with, that I wou'd gladly assume a little of this new *Modern* Accomplishment: But the Prejudice of early imbib'd Principles, is so strong, that, instead of answering a SMART in his own Way, I cannot forbear Blushing, both for Him, and the Ladies that are diverted with his *prodigious Wit*: So beg you will either assist me to conquer these *ill-bred Flushes*; or else prevail with 'the Ladies, now and then, to *confess* their *Sex*, by 'a Grain or two of Modesty, out of Compassion to 'several Sufferers; and particularly,

SIR,

Your Obedient

Humble Servant,

BIDDY BASHFUL.

N. B. *It wou'd not be amiss, if you wou'd be pleas'd to appoint different Hours of Publick Appearance, to the two Classes of the* Bolds *and* Bashfuls.

SIR,

'MOST of our Neighbours, knowing that I 'have the Honour to be related to you, 'have put me upon writing this Letter, to acquaint 'you, That Yesterday a strange and surprizing Crea-'ture was seen to pass through our Town on Horse-'back: It had the Face of a young Woman, stuck 'full of Patches; a Perriwig, which hung down to 'Its Waste; a Hat, cock'd with the Smartness of a 'young Officer; a huge Bunch of Ribbons, fastned 'behind Its Lett-Shoulder; a Shirt laid in large 'Pleights on the Breast, and tied close at the Neck 'and Wrists, which, with a Vest of White Satten, 'trimm'd with Black, had much the Resemblance of 'a Shroud. Our whole Town was soon alarmed with 'this strange Appearance, and various are still the 'Opinions what It really was: The Old People, 'who were the most couragious generally, went 'pretty near to It, with their Spectacles on, to view 'It more distinctly; the younger Sort kept It at 'an awful Distance: Some were of Opinion, that 'It was a Highwayman in Disguise, and according-'ly were for seizing It; others took it for a Nun; 'but by a certain arch Lear It had with Its Eyes, I 'dare

[Price Two-pence.]

'dare engage It had not a Bit of Nun's Fleſh about 'Its However, by its pale Complexion, and Shroud-'like Dreſs, moſt of my Neighbours, at laſt, grave-'ly concluded It to be a Ghoſt, and ſo took to 'their Heels, and left me, (who am no great Be-'liever in theſe Things) almoſt alone with It in 'the Road. I had now an Opportunity, during the 'Time It was drinking a Glaſs of *Rheniſh Wine* 'and *Sugar*, at the *Saracen's-head-Inn*, to ſurvey It 'well, and thereupon, concluding It to be an *Herma-'phrodite*, I enquired of the Man, who ſeemed to 'have the keeping of it, If he intended to ſhew 'It in our Town? and at what Inn? for, you 'muſt know, Sir, that I have a mighty Curioſity 'to ſee one of thoſe Creatures all over: But the 'Man, with an angry Countenance, told me, That 'what I took for an *Hermaphrodite*, was only a young 'Lady, and that the Sort of Dreſs ſhe was in, was 'commonly worn for a *Riding-Habit* by moſt of 'the Ladies of Faſhion at *London*: But as neither 'I, nor my Neighbours, can believe it poſſible for 'harmleſs Folks, upon no ill Deſign, to diſguiſe 'themſeves in ſuch a Manner, I deſire you will, in 'one of your PLAIN DEALERS (for we have it con-'ſtantly brought to us by our Coach) inform us of 'the Truth, which will tend very much to the Sa-'tisfaction of the beſt Part of our Town, who are 'your Readers; and, particularly,

Honoured SIR,

Your Kinſwoman, and moſt Humble Servant,

DOROTHY PLAIN.

Kettering in *Northampton-ſhire, July* 27 1724.

P. S. SIR, *Since I writ my Letter, ſome of my Neighbours tell me, they believe the Creature I have writ to you about, is one of the* Maſqueraders *we have heard on, that are common with you at* London; *but, for my Part, I can't think it ugly enough for one of them neither.*

The ſubſequent Epiſtle is very curious, and gives an Account of a new Method of Scandal, which, my Correſpondent aſſures me, takes very much with the Satyrical Part of her Sex; whom I am ſorry to ſee ſo uncharitable to each other, and indiſcreet, as to truſt their Reputation to the Tongue of ſo loquacious an Animal.

SIR,

'I Was prevailed upon, one Day laſt Week, to 'viſit my Lady *Tattle*, where I was no ſooner 'ſeated, but I heard a Voice (which I thought too 'hoarſe to come from our Sex) cry, *'Tis true, ſhe is 'very pretty; but then ſhe has Mrs.* Frail's *Fault, that 'loves Fellows Company*; And then a little after-'wards: *Good Lord! What's become of charming 'Miſs* Patty! *will ſhe never leave the Country! People 'ſay, before ſhe went, ſhe was remarkably fat about the 'Waſte.* Hearing my beſt Friends ſcandalized after 'this rude Manner; I could contain no longer, but, 'turning about to ſee the Author of ſuch injurious 'Expreſſions, how was I ſurprized to hear the ſame 'Voice, in the moſt humble ſupplicating Tone ima-'ginable, cry, *Poor* Poll, *ſcratch Pole*; *pretty* Par-'rot! It is impoſſible to deſcribe the Pleaſure, that 'appear'd in Lady *Tattle's* Eyes, upon hearing her 'Bird's Diſcourſe: She told me, She had beſpoke 'Three more, and that ſhe deſigned one for *Party*, 'another for *Scandal*, and the Third, which ſhe would 'inſtruct herſelf, ſhould ſpeak *Poetry*; I beg, Sir, 'you would either in your Writings put a Stop to 'this growing Folly, or deſire ſome Member of Pa-'liament to propoſe an Act to prohibit the Impo-'tation of *Parrots*.

I am, SIR,

Your moſt Humble Servant,

Kenſington, July 27.

VINDEMI

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Now in the Preſs, and will be ſpeedily Publiſhed, (Done in Engliſh, *from the* Dutch *Tranſlation*)

The PERSIAN CROMWELL; being an Account of the Life and ſurprizing Atchievements and Succeſſes of MERI-WEIS, Great Duke of *Candahar*, and *Protector* of the *Perſian Empire*. Written by a *Swediſh Officer*, who, for many Years, was *Domeſtick Slave* to MERI-WEIS. Together with a *Geographical Deſcription* of all the Places where the Actions happened, which produced the late *Revolution* in PERSIA. To which is prefix'd his Effigie curiouſly engrav'd from an Original Painting. Printed for *J. Roberts*, in *Warwick-Lane*, and *W. Mears*, near *Temple-Bar*.

A Catalogue of BOOKS.

Conſiſting of a Collection of the choiceſt Authors as well Antient as Modern, in *Greek*, *Latin*, *Engliſh*, *Italian*, *French*, and other Languages; of moſt Parts of Learning as Architecture, Medals, Husbandry, Trade, Voyages, Mathematicks, Lexicons, Dictionaries, Divinity, Law, Phyſick, Poetry, Plays, Novels, Lives, *&c.* With ſeveral of the Fathers of the Church, in *Greek* and *Latin*, and Antient Editions of the Claſſicks; alſo ſeveral of the Claſſicks *cum Notis Variorum*, &c. With a Collection of Polite Literature by Modern Authors, bound after a very neat Manner: Likewiſe a large Collection relating to the Hiſtory of ſeveral Foreign Countries, as well as the Hiſtory of the Parliament, and Church of *Great-Britain* and *Ireland*. All the Antiquities of ſeveral of the Counties, *&c.* of *England*; with ſeveral Volumes of curious Tracts upon Miſcellaneous Subjects. The Books are in good Condition and well-bound, many being gilt on the Back, and letter'd, and ſeveral large Paper. Which will begin to be ſold very cheap, to Morrow, the Fourth of this Inſtant (the Price being mark'd in each Book) at *W. Mear's* Shop at the *Lamb* without *Temple-Bar*, at Nine in the Morning. Where Catalogues may be had: As alſo at Mr. *Strahan's* in *Cornhil*, Mr *Meighan's* under *Gray's-Inn* Gate *Holbourn*, Mr. *Lewis's* in *Ruſſel-Street Covent-Garden*, Mr. *Jackſon's* in *Pall-Mall*, Bookſellers; at the *Chapter* Coffee-Houſe in *Pater-Noſter-Row*, and at the *Britiſh* at the *Mews-Gate*; as alſo of Mr. *Fletcher* at *Oxford*, Mr. *Thurlbourn* at *Cambridge*, Mr. *Leake* at *Bath*, Mr. *Carlas's* at *Norwich*, Mr. *Walhoe's* at *Richmond*, Bookſellers; and of Mrs. *Bradſhaw* at the Coffee-Houſe at *Kenſington*.

This Day are Publiſhed,

PROPOSALS *for Printing by* SUBSCRIPTION *The Second Volume of*

MAHOMETISM Explained; being a Syſtem of the Religion of the *Mahometans*, including, more particularly, their *Eccleſiaſtical Hiſtory*, with the Lives of their *Patriarchs*, Together with the *Rites*, *Feſtivals*, *Faſts*, *Holy Days*, *Ceremonies*, *Devotions*, &c. uſed by the *Mahometans* throughout the Year. With many Curioſities never treated of by any *European* Writers. As alſo a moſt Remarkable *Deſcription* of the *Laſt Day*. Written in *Spaniſh*, intermix'd with *Arabick*, in the Year 1603, for the Inſtruction of the *Moriſcoes* in *Spain*, who, to avoid the Cruelties of the *Inquiſition*, were forced to receive *Baptiſm*. By MAHOMET RABADAN, an *Arragonian Moor*. Tranſlated from the *Original Manuſcript*, never in Print, now in the Library of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of *Oxford*. By Mr. MORGAN. Propoſals are delivered *gratis*, by *R. Knaplock*, in St. *Paul's* Church-yard; *J. Peele*, in *Pater-noſter-Row*; and *F. Clarke* under the *Royal Exchange*. Where may be had Vol. I. Price 5 s.

Lately Publiſhed,

The *Hop-Garden*; or, Directions for Planting and Managing *Hops*. Dedicated to Mr. BRADLY. Printed for *F. Roberts*, at the *Oxford-Arms* in *Warwick-Lane*. Price 4*d*.

Printed for J. ROBERTS, in *Warwick-Lane*. Where *Letters* and *Advertiſements* are taken in.